

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 01995 282250Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 L-03 H-01 SY-05
SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 /051 W
-----099960 282255Z /15
O 282235Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6451

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E.O. N/A

TAGS: CARR, PINT, SHUM, NU

SUBJECT: CHARITON TO BE RETURNED TO MILITARY HOSPITAL

REF MANAGUA 1969, 1560

1. FOREIGN MINISTER QUINTANA INFORMED AMBASSADOR TODAY, APRIL 28, THAT ARTHUR CHARITON WOULD BE TRANSFERRED BACK TO THE MILITARY HOSPITAL FROM THE MANAGUA CENTRAL JAIL. QUINTANA DID NOT INDICATE HOW QUICKLY THIS WOULD HAPPEN, BUT OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT THE TRANSFER WILL TAKE PLACE SOON. QUINTANA SAID THAT CHARITON'S RETURN TO THE HOSPITAL WAS IN RESPONSE TO A PRO MEMORIA NOTE WHICH THE EMBASSY HAD DELIVERED TO THE MINISTRY ON APRIL 27. THAT NOTE HAD INDICATED, INTER ALIA, THAT THE EMBASSY DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY CHARITON HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE HOSPITAL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND WITHOUT ANY OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO THE EMBASSY, BEFORE OR AFTER THE FACT, AND WITHOUT ANY OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO THE EFFECT THAT CHARITON'S HEALTH CONDITION HAD SO IMPROVED AS TO NO LONGER WARRANT HIS CONTINUED HOSPITALIZATION. (EMBASSY POUCHING TEXT OF ITS NOTE TO ARA/CEN).

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2. CHARITON'S US ATTORNEY, SOL LEVINE, HIS LOCAL ATTORNEY, DR. ZELAYA, AND MRS. CHARITON WERE IN EMBASSY WHEN QUINTANA'S MESSAGE ARRIVED. THEY WERE SURPRISED AND DELIGHTED TO HEAR THAT CHARITON WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE HOSPITAL.

3. LEVINE DID NOT WANT A BRIEFING AS TO THE USG'S

ASYLUM POLICY BUT DID COMMENT THAT HAD CHARITON BEEN PERMITTED TO CONTACT HIM, LEVINE COULD HAVE CALMED CHARITON DOWN AND PERSUADED HIM TO LEAVE THE EMBASSY VOLUNTARILY AND QUIETLY. THAT , HOWEVER, WAS NOW WATER OVER THE DAM, LEVINE SAID.

4. LEVINE WAS TO MEET WITH BANCO DE CENTROAMERICA PRESIDENT OSCAR SEVILLA SACASA AT 1430 HOURS (LOCAL) TODAY. HE UNDERTOOK TO BRIEF EMBOFF ON RESULTS OF THE MEETING THEREAFTER. LEVINE RETURNS TO U.S. SATURDAY A.M. HE SAID HE WILL GO TO WASHINGTON TO TALK WITH VARIOUS CONGRESSMEN ABOUT THE CHARITON CASE IF NO RESOLUTION IS REACHED NOW, AND THAT HE HOPES TO CALL ON DEPUTY ASST. SEC. SHELTON.

5. CONSUL VISITED CHARITON IN JAIL APRIL 27. HE LOOKED WELL AND WAS ANXIOUS TO TELL CONSUL, WHO HAD BEEN ABROAD FOR A MONTH, ABOUT HIS SOJOURN IN THE EMBASSY. VERY LITTLE NEW DATA EMERGED FROM THE CONVERSATION.
SOLAUN

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Message Attributes

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